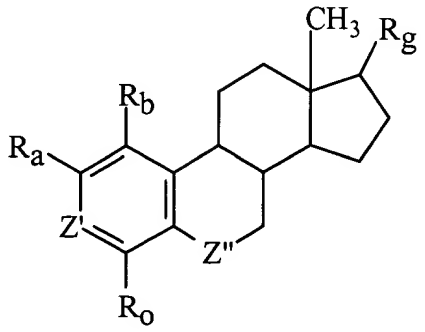
Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the claims as indicated below.

1. (Presently Amended) A compound of the general formula:



wherein:

a) R_b and R_o are ~~independently~~ both -H~~, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F, -CN, lower alkyl, -OH, -CH2-OH, -NH2; or N(R6)(R7), wherein R6 and R7 are independently hydrogen or an alkyl or branched alkyl with up to 6 carbons~~;

b) R_a is -N3, -C≡N, -C≡C-R, -CH=CH-R, -R-CH=CH2, -C≡CH, -O-R, -R-R1, or -O-R-R1 where R is a straight or branched alkyl with up to 10 carbons or aralkyl, and R1 is -OH, -NH2, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F or CF3;

c) Z' is ~~>CH,~~ >COH~~, or >C R2-OH, where R2 is an alkyl or branched alkyl with up to 10 carbons or aralkyl~~;

d) >C-R_g is >C(H)-OH; and

e) Z" is >CH2~~, >C=O, >C(H) OH, >C=N OR5, >C(H) C≡N, or >C(H) NR5R5, wherein each R5 is independently hydrogen, an alkyl or branched alkyl with up to 10 carbons or aralkyl~~;

with the proviso that ~~if R_b is H, R_o is H, Z' is >COH, >C R_g is >C(H) OH,~~ ~~and Z" is $>CH_2$, then~~ R_a is ~~neither $-OCH_3$ nor $-OCH_2CH_3$~~ not –OR and R_1 is not CF_3.

2. (Presently amended) The compound of Claim 1, wherein:

~~R_b and R_o are H,~~

R_a is $-C \equiv C - CH_3$; and

~~Z' is >C OH,~~

~~Z" is $>CH_2$~~.

3-4. (Withdrawn).

5-6. (Canceled).

7. (Presently amended) The compound of Claim 1, wherein:

~~R_b and R_o are H,~~

R_a is $CH=CH_2$

~~Z' is >C OH, and~~

~~Z" is $>CH_2$~~.

8. (Presently amended) The compound of Claim 1, wherein:

~~R_b and R_o are H,~~

R_a is *E*-$CH=CHCH_3$

~~Z' is >C OH, and~~

~~Z" is $>CH_2$~~.

9. (Presently amended) The compound of Claim 1, wherein:

~~R_b and R_o are H,~~

R_a is NHC_2H_5

~~Z' is >C-OH, and~~

~~Z" is >CH_2~~.

10. (Presently amended) The compound of Claim 1, wherein~~:~~

~~R_b and R_o are H,~~

R_a is $NHCOCH_3$

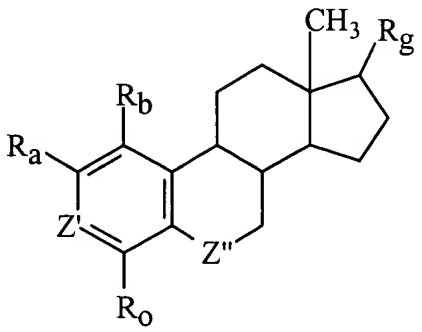
~~Z' is >C-OH, and~~

~~Z" is >CH_2~~.

11-14. (Canceled).

15-28. (Withdrawn).

29. (Presently amended) A compound of the general formula:



wherein:

a) R_b and R_o are ~~independently~~ both -H, ~~-Cl, -Br, -I, -F, -CN, lower alkyl, -OH, -CH_2-OH, -NH_2; or N(R_6)(R_7), wherein R_6 and R_7 are independently hydrogen or an alkyl or branched alkyl with up to 6 carbons~~;

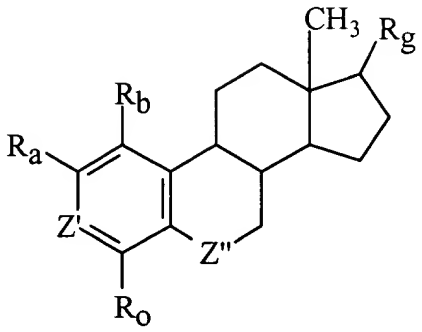
b) R_a is $NHCOCH_3$;

c) Z' is ~~>CH,~~ >COH~~, or >C-R_2-OH, where R_2 is an alkyl or branched alkyl with up to 10 carbons or aralkyl~~;

d) >C-R_g is >C(H)-OH; and

e) Z" is >CH_2~~, >C=O, >C(H)-OH, >C=N-OH, >C=N-OR_5, >C(H)-C≡N, or >C(H)-NR_5R_5, wherein each R_5 is independently hydrogen, an alkyl or branched alkyl with up to 10 carbons or aralkyl~~.

30. (Presently amended) A compound of the general formula:



wherein:

a) R_b and R_o are ~~independently~~ both -H, ~~-Cl, -Br, -I, -F, -CN, lower alkyl, -OH, -$$CH_2$$-OH, -$$NH_2$$; or N($$R_6$$)($$R_7$$), wherein $$R_6$$ and $$R_7$$ are independently hydrogen or an alkyl or branched alkyl with up to 6 carbons~~;

b) R_a is -O-R-R_1 where R is a straight or branched alkyl with up to 10 carbons or aralkyl, and R_1 is -OH, -NH_2, -Cl, -Br, -I, -F or CF_3;

c) Z' is >CH~~, >COH, or >C-$$R_2$$-OH, where $$R_2$$ is an alkyl or branched alkyl with up to 10 carbons or aralkyl~~;

d) >C-R_g is >C(H)-OH; and

e) Z" is >CH_2~~, >C=O, >C(H)-OH, >C=N-OH, >C=N-OR5, >C(H)-C≡N, or >C(H)-NR5R5, wherein each R5 is independently hydrogen, an alkyl or branched alkyl with up to 10 carbons or aralkyl~~;

with the proviso that ~~if $$R_b$$ is H, $$R_o$$ is H, Z' is >COH, and Z" is >$$CH_2$$, then~~ R_a R_1 is not ~~-$$OCH_2CF_3$$~~ CF_3.

31. (Canceled).